

Subject: Fwd: La River Headwaters Homeless Encampment Relocation and Clean Up

From: Sarah Bell <sarah.bell@lacity.org>

Date: 4/1/20, 9:03 AM

To: Keith Banks <keith.banks@lacity.org>

Sarah Elizabeth Bell
Public Relations Specialist
Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment
1149 S. Broadway, Ste 500
213-847-3457 (direct)
sarah.bell@lacity.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jonathan King** <JKING@dpw.lacounty.gov>

Date: Tue, Mar 31, 2020 at 9:59 AM

Subject: RE: La River Headwaters Homeless Encampment Relocation and Clean Up

To: David Bou <david.bou@lacity.org>

Cc: Jeff Jacobberger <jeff.jacobberger@lacity.org>, Edward Giron <edward.giron@lacity.org>, Sarah Bell <sarah.bell@lacity.org>, Abbass Vajar <abbass.vajar@lacity.org>, Clayton, Blake <BClayton@bos.lacounty.gov>, Carlos Rios <carlos.rios@lacity.org>, David Mojica <david.mojica@lacity.org>, Laren Bunker <LBUNKER@dpw.lacounty.gov>, Matt Gertz <matt.gertz@lacity.org>, Michael Owens <michael.owens@lacity.org>, Ronald Anderson <RANDERSON@dpw.lacounty.gov>, Victor Cortes <victor.cortes@lacity.org>, Shant Dergazarian <SDERGAZA@dpw.lacounty.gov>, Susan Herman <SHerman@dpw.lacounty.gov>, Steve Sheridan <ssherida@dpw.lacounty.gov>, michael.affeldt@lacity.org <michael.affeldt@lacity.org>

Hi David,

County crews were planning to post our 14-day cleanup notifications tomorrow but I just got direction from administration this morning to suspend all efforts related to this work until further notice. You may recall from Thursday's site meeting that I advised this is a fluid situation and that our direction could change at a moment's notice, so apologies for any inconvenience.

Regards,

Jonathan King

Assistant Area Engineer

LA County Public Works

Office: (818) 896-0594

From: Jonathan King

Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2020 1:05 PM

To: David Bou <david.bou@lacity.org>

Cc: Jeff Jacobberger <jeff.jacobberger@lacity.org>; Edward Giron <edward.giron@lacity.org>; Sarah Bell <sarah.bell@lacity.org>; Abbass Vajar <abbass.vajar@lacity.org>; Clayton, Blake <BClayton@bos.lacounty.gov>; Carlos Rios <carlos.rios@lacity.org>; David Mojica <david.mojica@lacity.org>; Laren Bunker <LBUNKER@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Matt Gertz <matt.gertz@lacity.org>; Michael Owens <michael.owens@lacity.org>; Ronald Anderson <RANDERSON@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Victor Cortes <victor.cortes@lacity.org>; Shant Dergazarian <SDERGAZA@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Susan Herman <SHerman@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Steve Sheridan <ssHERIDA@dpw.lacounty.gov>; michael.affeldt@lacity.org

Subject: RE: La River Headwaters Homeless Encampment Relocation and Clean Up

Hi David,

County crews completed their field investigation and verified that most of the PEH encampments observed within the project limits are in City-maintained areas, such as the existing decomposed granite (DG) walking path (i.e., the future paved bike path) per executed Use Agreement No. 18-05 and within bridge support structures. I'll refer those to Sarah Bell for handling by the City. The County observed some PEH encampments in the County-maintained green way adjacent to the future bike path, so we'll address those.

I am **attaching** some photos for reference. The photos with a green banner are in City-maintained areas. The photos without a green banner are in County-maintained areas.

Regards,

Jonathan

From: David Bou <david.bou@lacity.org>

Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 3:05 PM

To: Jonathan King <JKING@dpw.lacounty.gov>

Cc: Jeff Jacobberger <jeff.jacobberger@lacity.org>; Edward Giron <edward.giron@lacity.org>; Sarah Bell <sarah.bell@lacity.org>; Abbass Vajar <abbass.vajar@lacity.org>; Clayton, Blake <BClayton@bos.lacounty.gov>; Carlos Rios <carlos.rios@lacity.org>; David Mojica <david.mojica@lacity.org>; Laren Bunker <LBUNKER@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Matt Gertz <matt.gertz@lacity.org>; Michael Owens <michael.owens@lacity.org>; Ronald Anderson <RANDERSON@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Victor Cortes <victor.cortes@lacity.org>; Shant Dergazarian <SDERGAZA@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Susan Herman <SHerman@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Steve Sheridan <ssherida@dpw.lacounty.gov>; michael.affeldt@lacity.org

Subject: Re: La River Headwaters Homeless Encampment Relocation and Clean Up

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Jonathan,

Just to follow up, are there updates to LA County plans for the PEH encampment clean up in County's jurisdiction? Has the investigation been scheduled and when can the team perform the work? I know this is a fluid situation but we are trying to gauge how this may potentially affect project schedule.

Thank You

On Mon, Mar 16, 2020 at 10:15 AM Jonathan King <JKING@dpw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Hi Jeff,

As previously discussed, the City is currently responsible for maintaining the future bike path per executed Agreement No. 18-05 (**attached**). Therefore, the City can spearhead the cleanup of the premises, as defined in the agreement (see "hatched area" in the **attached** sample exhibit), as well as the areas up and under the City's bridges within the project limits. The County will work to support the City's efforts and schedule cleanup of the adjacent County-maintained areas, if possible. Unfortunately, I lack the authority to commit to a timeline at this point. It's my understanding that County officials will be discussing impacts to PEH encampment cleanups later today, so I'll follow up with more information as I learn it.

From last week's meeting, I advised that the County's timeline for PEH cleanup operations is longer than the City's due to the County's required timeline for outreach services. Our first step is always to investigate reports of PEH encampments, as noted in my 3/12/20 email to Eddie and Sarah below. We issued a work order late last week for the investigation. The crews assigned to this reach of the LA River were dealing with storms late last week and are off on Mondays, so I'll follow-up on the status tomorrow. Any timeline for completion in the County-maintained areas will be based on the findings of the investigation, namely the number of PEH present, and dictated by the weather (if we have crews responding to storm emergencies), LAHSA's ability to perform outreach, and the availability of the County Flood Control District's hazardous waste contractor.

In the meantime, there is nothing to restrict the City from scheduling and performing maintenance, including PEH encampment cleanups, in the City-maintained portion of the project limits in accordance with the agreement. Therefore, I don't see why the City would need to delay construction.

On a related note, has the City determined if there is language and capacity in the construction contract to provide 24/7 security patrols within the project limits as discussed at the meeting? Based on past experience, simply locking the access gates will not be effective at preventing trespassing, vandalism, theft, etc. in the construction zone.

Regards,

Jonathan King

Assistant Area Engineer

LA County Public Works

Office: (818) 896-0594

From: Jeff Jacobberger <jeff.jacobberger@lacity.org>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 8:56 AM
To: Jonathan King <JKING@dpw.lacounty.gov>
Cc: David Bou <david.bou@lacity.org>; Edward Giron <edward.giron@lacity.org>; Sarah Bell <sarah.bell@lacity.org>; Abbass Vajar <abbass.vajar@lacity.org>; Clayton, Blake <BClayton@bos.lacounty.gov>; Carlos Rios <carlos.rios@lacity.org>; David Mojica <david.mojica@lacity.org>; Laren Bunker <LBUNKER@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Matt Gertz <matt.gertz@lacity.org>; Michael Owens <michael.owens@lacity.org>; Ronald Anderson <RANDERSON@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Victor Cortes <victor.cortes@lacity.org>; Shant Dergazarian <SDERGAZA@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Susan Herman <SHerman@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Steve Sheridan <ssherida@dpw.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: La River Headwaters Homeless Encampment Relocation and Clean Up

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The health and safety of County Flood Control District, LAHSA and LA Sanitation workers is paramount, and we absolutely should be following the guidance of our public health authorities with respect to conducting (or suspending) cleanups.

However, to the extent possible, we should try to keep in mind that this is not a "routine" PEH encampment cleanup.

COVID19 is going to have significant negative impacts on government finances and the entire economy, due to a massive (hopefully temporary) loss of employment. Delaying this construction project will mean (a) increased construction costs at a time when the City of LA faces great fiscal pressure and (b) potential idling of private sector construction workers when government at all levels need to do what they can to stimulate employment. Although small, this is the type of already-funded shovel-ready government economic stimulus project that we relied on to help get us out of the last fiscal crisis, and which we should try to keep moving forward if guidance from our public health experts deem it feasible to do so.

Jeff

Jeff Jacobberger, Legislative Deputy

Office of Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

Los Angeles City Council, Third District
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On Mon, Mar 16, 2020 at 8:15 AM Jonathan King <JKING@dpw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Hi David,

I believe COVID-19 is going to impact our schedule for completing any PEH encampment cleanup operations in the project area for the foreseeable future. Effective immediately, our County Flood Control District crews have made an internal decision to stop self-performing PEH encampment cleanups until further notice out of an abundance of caution. If possible, we may use our hazardous waste contractor, but I need to determine their availability. In addition, I need to determine if LAHSA has modified their guidelines/principles in the wake of COVID-19. Finally, our County administration continues to issue directions to the workforce in response to COVID-19, so it's difficult to predict what the future holds. This is a fluid situation that continues to develop rapidly, so I am unable to give you a clear answer at this time. I appreciate your understanding while we navigate this crisis.

It's my understanding that County officials will be holding a conference call this week to discuss impacts of COVID19 on LAHSA and what resources LAHSA has available, and how that will impact our joint efforts in handling encampments. I'm happy to share information as I learn it. However, I believe this means that we will have to remain in a holding pattern until further notice.

Regards,

Jonathan King

Assistant Area Engineer

LA County Public Works

Office: (818) 896-0594

From: David Bou <david.bou@lacity.org>

Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 7:28 AM

To: Jonathan King <JKING@dpw.lacounty.gov>

Cc: Edward Giron <edward.giron@lacity.org>; Sarah Bell <sarah.bell@lacity.org>; Abbass Vajar <abbass.vajar@lacity.org>; Clayton, Blake <BClayton@bos.lacounty.gov>; Carlos Rios <carlos.rios@lacity.org>; David Mojica <david.mojica@lacity.org>; Jeff Jacobberger <jeff.jacobberger@lacity.org>; Laren Bunker <LBUNKER@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Matt Gertz <matt.gertz@lacity.org>; Michael Owens <michael.owens@lacity.org>; Ronald Anderson <RANDERSON@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Victor Cortes <victor.cortes@lacity.org>; Shant Dergazarian <SDERGAZA@dpw.lacounty.gov>

Subject: Re: La River Headwaters Homeless Encampment Relocation and Clean Up

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Jonathan,

Do you have any update regarding the PEH encampment cleanup?

Thank You

On Thu, Mar 12, 2020 at 3:40 PM Jonathan King <JKING@dpw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Hi Eddie & Sarah,

I was just informed that the County's LAHSA coordinators are considering changes to our current practices in response to the coronavirus. I don't have any more information to share at this point, so I just wanted you to be advised as it may impact

our ability to perform the PEH encampment cleanup operation described below. I will share any information as I learn it.

Jonathan

From: Jonathan King

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 2:37 PM

To: 'Edward Giron' <edward.giron@lacity.org>; Sarah Bell <sarah.bell@lacity.org>

Cc: Abbass Vajar <abbass.vajar@lacity.org>; Clayton, Blake; Carlos Rios <carlos.rios@lacity.org>; David Bou <david.bou@lacity.org>; David Mojica <david.mojica@lacity.org>; Jeff Jacobberger <jeff.jacobberger@lacity.org>; Laren Bunker <LBUNKER@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Matt Gertz <matt.gertz@lacity.org>; Michael Owens <michael.owens@lacity.org>; Ronald Anderson <RANDERSON@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Victor Cortes <victor.cortes@lacity.org>; Shant Dergazarian <SDERGAZA@dpw.lacounty.gov>

Subject: RE: La River Headwaters Homeless Encampment Relocation and Clean Up

Hi Eddie,

I have referred your request to staff to generate a work order to initiate our investigation. Although the City's project will only be aligned along the right (south) bank of the LA River from Owensmouth to Mason, we'll investigate the entire County-maintained right-of-way. As noted during the meeting, we will need to follow County policy for PEH encampments. This typically involves an initial investigation to document conditions, after which we send a notification email to LAHSA. LAHSA takes approximately 72-hours to perform an assessment which then dictates how much time they will need for outreach. Based on my experience, LAHSA requires anywhere from 14-days to 30-days to conduct outreach, depending on the number of PEH encampments. Our goal will be to schedule any PEH encampment cleanups as close to the start of construction as possible, in order to help secure the area.

Hi Sarah,

Would you be willing to help coordinate a City cleanup for the hatched (City-maintained) areas identified in Exhibit A (pgs. 1-7) for Use Agreement No. 18-05, re: the City's bike path project? Please let me know if you need a copy of the agreement and exhibits for clarification. In addition, I think it would be a good idea for the City to address any PEH encampments up and under the City-maintained bridges (i.e., in the bridge abutments and girders) spanning the LA River within the project limits. We would appreciate LAPD's assistance with the cleanup operation, too.

At the end of the meeting, it occurred to me that the bridges should be included within the project limits to help enforce "No Trespassing" in the construction zone since the County has observed a large concentration of PEH encampments in these locations in the past. I didn't think of this until just after all of the callers left, so apologies for not sharing this thought with those attending via teleconference. However, I think it will help secure the construction zone and facilitate the City's enforcement of "No Trespassing" within the construction zone. It's my understand that this would include the following City bridges:

- Owensmouth
- Canoga
- De Soto
- Mason

Regards,

Jonathan King

Assistant Area Engineer

LA County Public Works

Office: (818) 896-0594

From: Edward Giron <edward.giron@lacity.org>

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 1:52 PM

To: Jonathan King <JKING@dpw.lacounty.gov>

Cc: Abbass Vajar <abbass.vajar@lacity.org>; Clayton, Blake

<BClayton@bos.lacounty.gov>; Carlos Rios <carlos.rios@lacity.org>; David Bou <david.bou@lacity.org>; David Mojica <david.mojica@lacity.org>; Jeff Jacobberger <jeff.jacobberger@lacity.org>; Laren Bunker <LBUNKER@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Matt Gertz <matt.gertz@lacity.org>; Michael Owens <michael.owens@lacity.org>; Ronald Anderson <RANDERSON@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Sarah Bell <sarah.bell@lacity.org>; Victor Cortes <victor.cortes@lacity.org>; Shant Dergazarian <SDERGAZA@dpw.lacounty.gov>

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CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Good Afternoon Jonathan,

City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation intends to have project start construction on the LA River between Owensmouth Ave and Mason Ave on the south bank. The project will consist of closing off the entire south bank which includes a greenway managed by LA County for the duration of the project. LADOT is requesting your assistance with the relocation and clean up of the homeless encampments in the project area before the anticipated start of construction of April 15, 2020. Please advise what steps we should take in order to start this process as soon as possible.

Thank You,

Eddie

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Edward Giron

Transportation Engineering Associate III

Active Transportation Division



Los Angeles Department of Transportation




213.972.8630






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	David Bou, P.E. Civil Engineer Associate Design Build Group Engineering Services Division Bureau of Street Services Department of Public Works City of Los Angeles 1149 S Broadway 4th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90015 O (213) 847-4216 david.bou@lacity.org
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